

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 2 are pending in the instant application.

The Amendment

Applicants have amended the drawings and claims to overcome the objections and rejections in the instant application.

The amendment to Figure 2 finds support on page 39, lines 4-16, which describes the separate views as Figure 2A, Figure 2B, Figure 2C and Figure 2D.

The amended claims find ample support in the specification, specifically at page 5, line 18 to page 13, line 21, whereby guidance is presented using spatially aligned interacting hydrophobic domains of two different peptides, polypeptides, or proteins which may form hydrophobic bonds with sufficient strength to bind the two different peptides, polypeptides, or proteins. Support for the term "peptide-like molecule" can be found on page 21, line 6 et seq.

No new matter is added in any of the above amendments. The Examiner is requested to enter the amendments and reconsider the application.

The Response

Oath/Declaration

The Examiner states that the Inventor's Declaration is defective because the specification to which the oath or declaration is directed to has not been adequately identified.

Applicants are submitting herewith a new Declaration in which the specification has been properly identified.

Objections to Priority Information

The Examiner has stated that Applicants have not complied with one or more conditions for receiving the benefit of an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Specifically, a typographical error in the instant application claims priority to a non-related patent application.

Applicants have amended the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 5 to correct this typographical error. Applicants respectfully request that the amendment be taken into consideration and the objection withdrawn.

Objection to Prior-Filed Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner states that the information disclosure statement filed is defective because it does not contain the instant application number, and is not accompanied by references as stated in the statement. Applicants submit herewith an amended information disclosure statement with its accompanying references.

Objection to the Abstract

The Examiner has objected to the language and format for the abstract of the instant application. Applicants have amended the abstract to conform to the format requirements under MPEP §608.01(b). Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the abstract be withdrawn.

Objections to Drawings

The Examiner has stated that new formal drawings are required in this application because the separate views of Figure 2 are not separately labeled.

Applicants are submitting herewith an amended Figure 2, which labels the separate views as Figure 2A, 2B, 2C and 2D. Applicants respectfully request that the drawing amendment be taken into consideration and the objection to Figure 2 be withdrawn.

35 USC § 112, Paragraph 1 Rejection

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. This rejection is overcome in view of the amendments.

Specifically, Applicants have amended the claims to delete the phrase “of an orderable physicochemical property” and replace with the term “representative of the hydrophobic free energy of said each member of the set of peptide constituents” to read “assigning to each member of a set of peptide constituents a numerical value representative of the hydrophobic free energy of said each member of the set of peptide constituents.” The

amended claims have therefore deleted reference to "an orderable physiochemical property" and refer to the hydrophobic free energy in place.

Applicants respectfully request that the amendments be taken into consideration, and the rejection to the above claims be withdrawn.

Non-Statutory Double Patenting Rejection

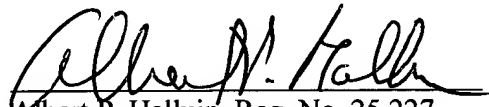
Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim of U.S. Patent No. 6,560,542 in view of Sisto et al.

Applicants are submitting herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to obviate this rejection. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection to the above claims be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the application is in good and proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: October 3, 2003

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